AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

CONCERNING THE PROGRAM OF THE PEACE CORPS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Albania, recognizing the importance of developing mutually advantageous relationships and cooperation between their countries, have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

- 1. The Government of the United States shall furnish such Peace Corps Volunteers as may be requested by the Government of the Republic of Albania and approved by the Government of the United States to perform mutually agreed tasks in Albania.
- 2. The Volunteers shall work under the immediate supervision of governmental and private organizations in Albania designated by the two governments.
- 3. The Government of the United States shall provide training to enable the Volunteers to perform their tasks in the most effective manner.
- 4. The Government of the Republic of Albania shall bear such share of the costs of the Peace Corps program incurred in Albania as the two governments may agree.

ARTICLE II

1. The Government of the Republic of Albania shall accord equitable treatment to the Volunteers and personnel performing functions under contract with the Peace Corps and their dependents and property; accord them and their property full aid and protection, including treatment equal to or better than that accorded to nationals of the United States residing in Albania; and fully inform, consult, and cooperate with representatives of the Government of the United States with respect to all matters concerning them.

2. The Government of the Republic of Albania shall exempt the Volunteers and persons performing functions under contract with the Peace Corps who are not citizens or permanent residents of Albania from all taxes on payments that they receive to defray their living costs, on income derived from their Peace Corps work, and on income from other sources outside Albania; from all customs duties or other charges on their personal property introduced into Albania for their own use; and from all other taxes or other charges (including immigration/visa fees), except license fees. The Government of the Republic of Albania shall issue residence permits and visas (including multiple-entry visas), without fee or other charge, to Volunteers and persons performing functions under contract with the Peace Corps.

ARTICLE III

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- 1. The Government of the United States shall provide the Volunteers, the Peace Corps Representative, and staff of the Representative with such limited quantities of equipment and supplies as the two governments may consider necessary to enable the Volunteers to perform their tasks effectively.
- 2. The Government of the Republic of Albania shall exempt from all taxes (including value-added taxes), customs duties, and other charges all equipment, supplies, and other goods and services introduced into or acquired in Albania by the Government of the United States, or any contractor financed by it, for use as provided under this agreement.

ARTICLE IV

1. To enable the Government of the United States to discharge its responsibilities under this agreement, the Government of the Republic of Albania shall receive a Peace Corps Representative and such staff of the Representative (including employees and contractor personnel as designated by the Peace Corps Representative), and members of their families forming part of their households, as are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Albania. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other agreement, the Government of the Republic of Albania shall exempt such persons, and members of their families forming part of their households, who are not citizens or permanent residents of Albania from all taxes on income derived from their Peace Corps work or other sources outside Albania, from all customs duties and other charges on their personal property introduced into Albania for their own use, and from all other taxes or other charges (including immigration/visa fees), except license fees. In addition, such persons, and members of their families forming part of their households, shall be accorded status equivalent to that accorded administrative and technical staff personnel of the diplomatic mission of the United States, except they shall not be accorded immunities.

2. The Government of the Republic of Albania shall issue residence permits and visas (including multiple-entry visas), without fee or other charge, to the Peace Corps Representative, staff, and individuals performing functions under this agreement, and members of their families forming part of their households.

ARTICLE V

The Government of the Republic of Albania shall exempt from deposit requirements and currency controls all funds introduced into Albania for use in accordance with this agreement by the Government of the United States or contractors financed by it. Such funds shall be convertible into the currency of Albania at the highest rate that is not unlawful in Albania, and shall not be subject to requirements that they be invested.

ARTICLE VI

- 1. Authorized representatives of the two governments may from time to time make such arrangements with respect to Peace Corps Volunteers and Peace Corps programs in Albania as appear necessary or desirable for the purpose of implementing this agreement.
- 2. Any disputes arising under this agreement shall be resolved amicably by the two governments.

ARTICLE VII

The undertakings of each government herein are subject to the availability of funds.

ARTICLE VIII

This agreement may be amended from time to time by mutual consent of the two governments. Any such amendment shall be in writing. In the event of a conflict between this agreement and a future agreement regarding cooperation to facilitate assistance, this agreement shall prevail concerning the Peace Corps program.

ARTICLE IX

This agreement shall enter into force upon an exchange of notes confirming that each party has completed the necessary domestic legal requirements to bring the agreement into force. It shall remain in force until ninety days after the date of the written notification from either government to the other of its intention to terminate the

agreement. This agreement supercedes the November 19, 1991, Agreement Between the Government of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the United States of America Concerning the Program of the Peace Corps of the United States in the Republic of Albania, which shall terminate upon entry into force of this agreement.

Done at Tirana, Albania, on 22 July 2003, in duplicate in the English and Albanian languages, each text being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMÉRICA:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA: